

A2 [0073] To assemble the unit, the spring 1968 is slid onto the center shaft 1910 stopping against a larger diameter near the eye end. The locking ring 1960 is then slid over the square shank 1930 of the center shaft 1910. Then, the lock bar 1950 is installed over the center shaft pin 1940, and is aligned so that the long side of the lock bar 1950 is perpendicular to a long side of the locking ring boss 1962 and is screwed (or pinned) in place by screw 1952.

In the Claims:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, please replace claims 1, 3-15, 17, 23, 25, 27 and 28 with the following rewritten version of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached Version With Markings to Show Changes Made. Further, please add new claims 30 and 31 as indicated below.

all
from
old
1. (Amended) A truck, comprising:
a body; and
at least one tie-down track mounted on the body such that a mounting surface of the track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of a horizontal plane of the body and a slotted surface of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body.

3. (Amended) A truck, comprising:
a body;
at least one tie-down track, the tie-down track being integral with the body of the truck such that the exterior contour of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the contour of adjacent portions of the body; and
a fitting which can be slidingly moved within the track and then fixed in a desired position, the entire fitting being releasable from the track.

4. (Amended) A truck comprising:
a body; and

at least one tie-down track, the tie-down track being integral with the body of the truck such that the exterior contour of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the contour of adjacent portions of the body,

wherein the body forms a cargo bed and the track does not extend appreciably beyond a horizontal plane of a floor of the cargo bed.

5. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the body comprises a cargo bed and the track is mounted at a front of the cargo bed parallel to a rear end of a cab of the truck.

6. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the body comprises a cargo bed and the tie-down track is mounted in the cargo bed parallel to a longitudinal direction of the truck.

7. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 6, further comprising:
a second tie-down track in the cargo bed, the second tie-down track mounted on the body such that a mounting surface of the second tie-down track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of the horizontal plane of the body and a slotted surface of the second tie-down track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body.

8. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the body comprises a cargo bed and the tie-down track is located in a side wall of the cargo bed parallel to a longitudinal direction of the truck.

9. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 8, further comprising:
a second tie-down track in a second side wall of the cargo bed, the second tie-down track mounted on the second side wall such that a mounting surface of the second tie-down track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of

the horizontal plane of the body and a slotted surface of the second tie-down track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body.

10. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the body comprises a tailgate and wherein the track is supported by the tailgate.

11. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface of the track does not extend more than 1/2 inch beyond the contour of the adjacent portions of the body.

12. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface of the track does not extend more than 1/4 inch beyond the contour of the adjacent portions of the body.

13. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface of the track does not extend more than 1/8 inch beyond the contour of the adjacent portions of the body.

14. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein an exterior contour of the track is flush with the adjacent portions of the body.

15. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface is flush with the adjacent portions of the body.

17. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a protective strip which fits into a slot in the slotted surface.

23. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface has a slot opening in a vertical direction.

25. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the truck comprises a first tie-down track, a second tie-down track, and a third tie-down track;

a7 each of the first, second, and third tie-down tracks being mounted on the body such that the mounting surface of the track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of the horizontal plane of the body and the slotted surface of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the body.

a8 27. (Amended) A truck ~~as~~ set forth in claim 24, wherein the track is located in or adjacent to a cargo bed ~~of~~ of the truck.

28. (Amended) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the slotted surface of the track does not extend more than 3/4 inch beyond the contour of the adjacent portions of the body.

a9 30. (New) A truck as set forth in claim 1, wherein the at least one tie-down track is mounted in a floor of the body such that the mounting surface of the track is recessed with respect to the contour of adjacent portions of a horizontal plane of the floor of the body and the slotted surface of the track does not extend appreciably beyond the horizontal plane of the floor of the body.

31. (New) A truck as set forth in claim 4, wherein the at least one tie-down track is mounted wholly external to a passenger compartment of the truck.
